

**REMARKS**

This paper is being filed concurrently with Applicants' transmittal of the application and related papers necessary to request entry into the national stage under 35 U.S.C. 371 and 37 CFR 1.495 on the basis of the International Application No. PCT/EP00/00052, filed 05 January 2000.

The specification has been amended to provide updated information regarding cross-references to related applications under 37 CFR §1.78.

Applicants respectfully request that pending claims 1-14 of the international application be canceled and new claims 15-34 be entered as noted above.

New claims 15-27 and 32-34 correspond to original claims 1-14 in scope and subject matter but are written in proper claim format for review in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. It is not the intention of the Applicants to abandon or otherwise surrender any of the inventive subject matter disclosed in the application as originally filed.

New claims 28-31 are directed to a novel extraction buffer useful to isolate nucleic acid from a biological sample, as taught in the specification as filed as an object of the present invention. Support for these added claims can be found throughout the specification as filed. See, specifically, page 3, line 15 bridging to page 4, line 18. No new matter is introduced.

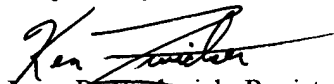
An information disclosure statement pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98 is submitted concurrently herewith in order to expedite consideration of this application on the merits. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2), copies of each of the citations are submitted with the accompanying papers.

A check for the filing fees accompanies these papers, and the fees are calculated taking the foregoing amendments into account. The Commissioner is specifically authorized to charge any additional fees deemed to be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or any of the accompanying papers, or any other fees necessary to complete national stage filing based on said

international application, to Deposit Account 50-0268. This authorization to charge Deposit Account 50-0268, extends, in particular, to any national stage fee set forth under 37 CFR 1.492.

Examination and allowance of the claims as presented herein are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence listed above is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10, postage prepaid, Express Mailing Label No. **EL 164335248 US**, in an envelope addressed to the Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

July 10, 2001  
Date

Stephanie L. Leicht  
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